

A NEW SPECIES OF *CLERODENDRUM* (VERBENACEAE) FROM NORTHEASTERN INDIA¹

A. RAJENDRAN² & P. DANIEL³

(With a text-figure)

A new species, *Clerodendrum panigrahianum*, from Arunachal Pradesh in northeastern India, is described with an illustration.

Specimens of the genus *Clerodendrum* in Indian herbaria were studied for a revision of the Indian Verbenaceae. It was found that some specimens collected in Arunachal Pradesh in northeastern India and housed at ASSAM and CAL had been wrongly identified as *Clerodendrum bracteatum* Wall. ex Walp. (1845) which is typified by Wallich, *Numer. List No.* 1800, collected in Pundua, now in Bangladesh. Clarke (1885) recorded it for British India from Sikkim, Bhutan, Mishmee, Assam, Cachar and the Khasia mountains. Though the specimens from Arunachal Pradesh referred to above apparently resembled *C. bracteatum*, a critical study showed that they belonged to an undescribed species which is described here with an illustration. A comparison is made with the closely related *C. bracteatum*.

Clerodendrum panigrahianum sp. nov.

(Fig. 1).

C. bracteatum Wall. ex Walp. affinis sed foliis serratis; inflorescentiis terminalibus, solitariis, capitatis; pedunculis 1 - 4 cm longis; floribus multis, condensatis; bracteis linearo-ellipticis vel oblongis; calycibus subcampanulatis, laviter divisis et tubis corollae brevioribus differt.

Typus: INDIA: Arunachal Pradesh, Kameng F.D., Rupa to Jabrang, 23.v.1958, *G. Panigrahi* 16053 (CAL, holotypus, isotypus). *Paratypi*:

Kameng F.D., 2 - 2.5 miles from Rahung, 5900', 5.v.1957, *R.S. Rao* 7430 (ASSAM, CAL); Kameng F.D., Nyukmadong to Dirang Diong 2.vi.1957, *R.S. Rao* 8087 (CAL); Kameng F.D., Morsing, 16.vi.1958, *G. Panigrahi* 15728 (ASSAM); Kameng F.D., Shergaon to Jegaon, 20.v.1958, *G. Panigrahi* 15917 (CAL).

Shrub, c. 3m high; branches and branchlets subterete; young parts yellowish pubescent, glabrous when mature; bark thin, dark brown; internodes 2-16 cm long. Leaves decussate-opposite, sometimes subopposite, ovate, obtuse or subcordate at base, irregularly and distantly serrate along margins with acute serrations, shortly acuminate at apex, 6-14 x 3.5-10 cm, chartaceous, dark green, sparsely pubescent especially on nerves beneath, 3-nerved at base; lateral nerves 4-5 pairs; petioles terete, slender, 1-6 cm long, densely pubescent. Capitula terminal, c. 5 x 7.5 cm; peduncles obtusely 4-angular or subterete, 1.5 - 5 cm long, pubescent; bracts foliaceous, ovate, c. 1.6 x 1 cm; bractlets linear-elliptic or oblong, c. 1.5 x 0.4 cm, pubescent. Flowers numerous, compact: pedicels 4-5 mm long. Calyx tubular-campanulate, c. 7 x 5 mm, 5-toothed; teeth subequal, triangular, c. 3 x 2 mm, pubescent outside. Corolla subinfundibular, 5-lobed, white with rose or pink tinge; lobes subequal, obovate or suborbicular, obtuse, c. 5 x 4 mm; tube narrow, slightly curvate, 4-6 x 1-2 mm, glabrous. Stamens 4, didynamous, attached at or below mouth of corolla tube; filaments slender, glabrous, exerted, 6-10 mm long; anthers oblong, c. 0.15 mm long, 2-loculed, dark brown, glabrous. Ovary oblong, c. 2 x 1

¹Accepted October, 1996.

²National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow-226 001.

³Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore-641 003

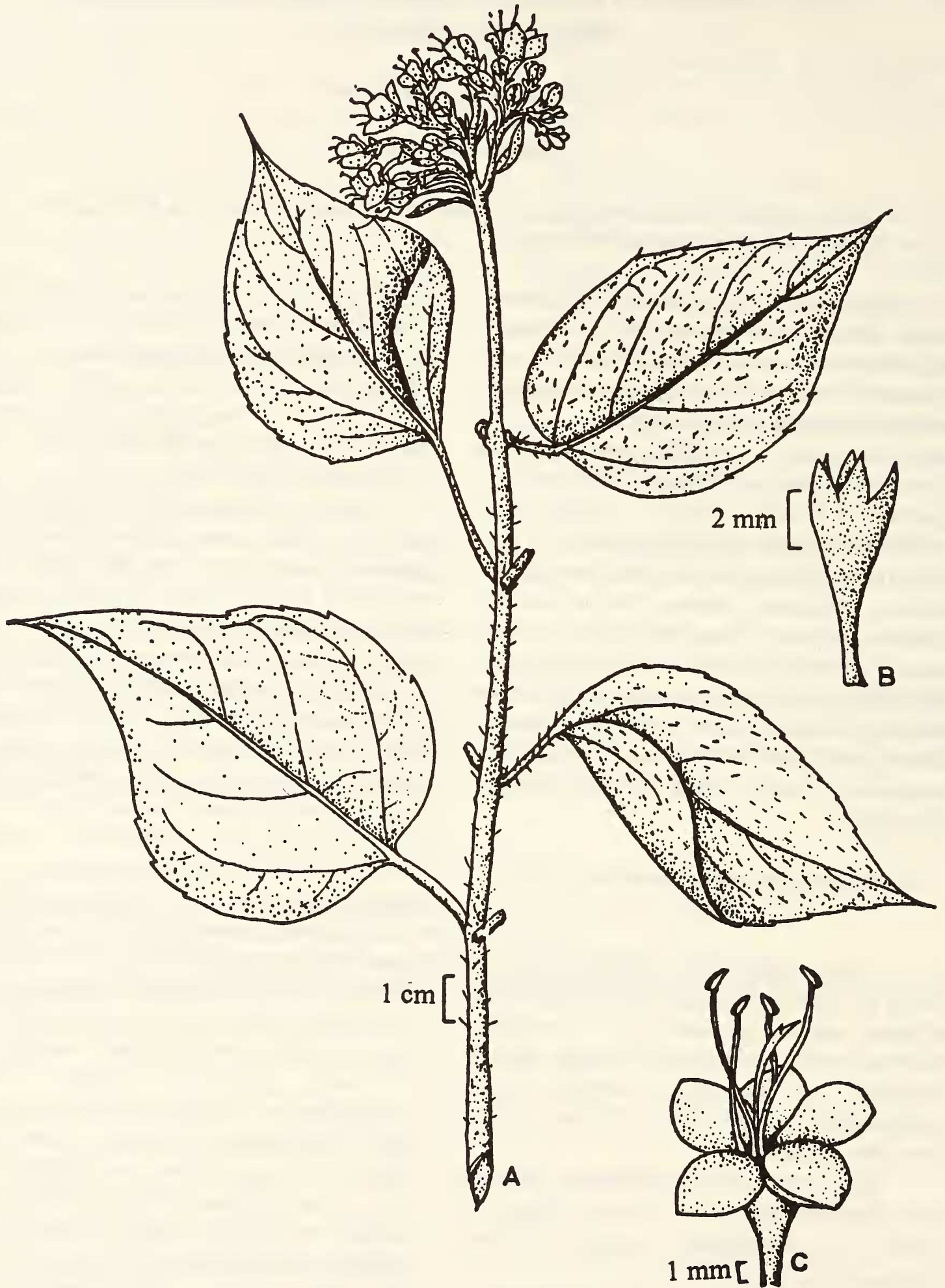


Fig. 1. *Clerodendrum panigrahianum* sp. nov.: A. Habit; B. Calyx; C. Flower.

mm, 4-lobed, glabrous; style slender, minutely 2-lobed; lobes subulate, unequal, glabrous. Fruit not seen.

Flowers: March - June.

Habitat: Evergreen forests, c, 1960 m.

Distribution: Kameng Forest Division, Arunachal Pradesh.

Clerodendrum panigrahanum is allied to *C. bracteatum* but differs from it as shown in Table 1.

Etymology: The species is named after Dr. G. Panigrahi, formerly Joint Director, Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta, who has collected extensively in northeastern India and greatly contributed to its botany.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Dr. N.P. Balakrishnan, formerly Joint Director, Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Coimbatore, for facilities and Dr. V.J. Nair, Deputy Director, BSI, Coimbatore, for the Latin diagnosis. A.R. is grateful to the Director, BSI, for a research fellowship and to the officers-in-

charge of CAL and ASSAM, for facilities and loan of specimens.

TABLE I

COMPARISON BETWEEN <i>C. BRACTEATUM</i> AND <i>C. PANIGRAHIANUM</i>		
Character	<i>C. bracteatum</i> Wall. ex Walp.	<i>C. panigrahanum</i> sp. nov.
1. Leaves	ovate-lanceolate, entire along margins	ovate, distantly and irregularly serrate along margins
2. Peduncles	5-15 cm long with 1-3 capitula	1-4 cm long with one capitulum
3. Flowers	few, lax, in simple cymes, white	numerous, in condensed heads, white with pink or rose tinge
4. Calyx	campanulate, divided to half its length or more	tubular campanulate slightly, divided c. 5 mm long
5. Corolla tube	c. 5 cm long	

REFERENCES

CLARKE, C.B. (1885): Verbenaceae. In: J.D. Hooker (Ed.), *The Flora of British India* 4: 560-604. L. Reeve & Co., London.

WALPERS, W.G. (1845): *Repertorium Botanices Systematicae* 4: 2-134. Fr. Hofmeister, Leipzig.